

HCS HB 414 -- DRUG TESTING FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

SPONSOR: Stevenson (Low)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute establishes Christy's Law which requires all health care personnel involved in the forensic examination or medical treatment of a victim of a sexual offense to inform the victim of his or her right to be tested for the presence of specific drugs used to facilitate a rape or sexual assault including, but not limited to, GHB, rohypnol, ketamine, and ecstasy. Any drug test results will be treated the same as other evidence collected and are to be included with all other evidence and test results gathered during the forensic examination.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill is needed because of the increase in sexual assault cases involving drugs. The bill will help to protect all Missourians and will address a gap in the current gathering of evidence.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Low; Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence; and Department of Public Safety.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.